

Burglars steal votive offerings from the Holy Monastery of the Holy Archangels on Serifos



A particularly brazen burglary occurred at the historic Holy Monastery of the Holy Archangels on Serifos, where three perpetrators managed to break into the church, steal dozens of precious votive offerings and disappear, all within just 90 seconds.

According to cyclades24.gr, the perpetrators used a wooden ladder to climb over the Monastery's outer walls and enter the courtyard. Their faces were covered with scarves, and they wore hoods and gloves while carrying bags containing burglary tools.

They Moved as Though They Knew the Premises

Their movements were recorded by security cameras and, according to the authorities, indicate that the perpetrators knew exactly where to go. Investigators are also examining the possibility that they had visited the Monastery previously to inspect the premises and plan the burglary.

The three men proceeded immediately to the church and forced open its door. They then attempted to break the protective glass covering the icon of Archangel Gabriel but discovered that it was bulletproof.

They subsequently broke the lock and removed the votive offerings kept there. The stolen objects included dozens of gold rings, bracelets, necklaces and medallions.

They Entered and Departed in Ninety Seconds

The speed with which the burglary was carried out is striking. From the moment they entered until their departure, approximately ninety seconds elapsed. The perpetrators then left through the Monastery's main wooden gate. The presence of several clearly visible security cameras was insufficient to deter them.

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At the time of the burglary, the Abbot, Fr Evdokimos, and Fr Gabriel were present at the Monastery but did not become aware of the intruders. The incident was discovered in the morning, and the police were immediately notified. The morning Divine Liturgy was not celebrated.

Cameras Recorded the Perpetrators Frame by Frame

Police now possess video footage from four of the Monastery's security cameras, which recorded the actions of the three individuals. The footage is being examined as part of the investigation to identify and locate them.

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